ELECTION

On Page 2 of the first Office action, Applicants' pending claims were determined to be directed to the following plurality of patentably distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-4, 20, and 21, drawn to a parcel manager, classified in class 705, subclass 7;

Group II: Claims 5, 22, 23, drawn to billing statement manager, classified in class 705, subclass 34;

Group III: Claims 6-10, 24, and 25, drawn to a billing integrator, classified in class 705, subclass 34;

Group IV: Claims 11, 12, and 26-29, drawn to commands usable with parcel objects, classified in class 705, subclass 3;

Group V: Claims 13-19, and 30-35, drawn to status updating for tracking systems, classified in class 705, subclass 7.

In response to the restriction requirement contained in the Office Action, the Applicants hereby elect without traverse for prosecution purposes the claims of Group I, namely Claims 1-4, 20, and 21. In view of the amendments and newly added claims, the foregoing election now includes Claims 1-4, 20-23, and 36-42 within the scope of the restriction requirement.

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were pending. Claims 5-19, and 24-35 have been cancelled. Claims 2-5 and 22-23 have been amended. Claims 36-42 have been added. Claims 1-4, 20-23, and 36-42 have been elected, are now pending, and are presented for consideration on the merits.

<u>Marked up Version of the Pending Claims Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii):</u>

Amend Claims 2-5 and 22-23 as follows and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.21(c)(1)(ii), by which the Applicants submit the following marked up version only for claims being changed by the current amendment, wherein the markings are shown by brackets (for deleted matter) and/or underlining (for added matter):

2.   (Once Amended)   A parcel manager [as recited in claim 1, further comprising] <u>for managing transfer of data from a local computer to a remote computer, the parcel manager being embodied on a computer readable medium, and comprising:</u>

<u>an interface object to present an interface into the parcel manager from one or more external applications;</u>

<u>a parcel object created via a first function presented by the interface object, the parcel object providing functionality to place the data in one or more parcel components for transferring to the remote computer, each said parcel component being particularized to contain and carry a particular type of data that was requested;</u>

<u>a notification object created via a second function presented by the interface object in response to a request from an external application, the notification object providing functionality to track a status of the parcel object as the parcel components are transferred to the remote computer; and</u>

a bulletin object to hold update information regarding the parcel object.

3. (Once Amended) A parcel manager [as recited in claim 1, further comprising] for managing transfer of data from a local computer to a remote computer, the parcel manager being embodied on a computer readable medium, and comprising:

an interface object to present an interface into the parcel manager from one or more external applications;

a parcel object created via a first function presented by the interface object, the parcel object providing functionality to place the data in one or more parcel components for transferring to the remote computer, each said parcel component being particularized to contain and carry a particular type of data that was requested;

a notification object created via a second function presented by the interface object in response to a request from an external application, the notification object providing functionality to track a status of the parcel object as the parcel components are transferred to the remote computer; and

a monitor object created by the notification object to check for presence of the parcel components.

4. (Once Amended) A parcel manager [as recited in claim 1, further comprising] for managing transfer of data from a local computer to a remote computer, the parcel manager being embodied on a computer readable medium, and comprising:

an interface object to present an interface into the parcel manager from one or more external applications;

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a parcel object created via a first function presented by the interface object, the parcel object providing functionality to place the data in one or more parcel components for transferring to the remote computer, each said parcel component being particularized to contain and carry a particular type of data that was requested;

a notification object created via a second function presented by the interface object in response to a request from an external application, the notification object providing functionality to track a status of the parcel object as the parcel components are transferred to the remote computer; and

a parcel database object to add and retrieve information regarding the parcel object in a database.

22.   (Once Amended)   The parcel manager as recited in claim 36[5], wherein the particular type of billing data is batch statement data.

23.   (Once Amended)   The parcel manager as recited in claim 36[5], wherein the particular type of billing data is selected from the group consisting of consumer information data, payment data, batch statement data, and statement template data.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application, which could be clarified by a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this ___7th___ day of ~~November~~ January 2002, ~~2001~~.

Respectfully submitted,

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